

In The Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 5-9 with the following replacement paragraph:

The present invention also provides a film obtained by any of the methods described above. The present invention also provides a tape comprising a backing including a first major surface and a layer of adhesive on said first major surface, wherein said backing comprises a film obtained by any of the methods described above.

Please replace the paragraph on page 13, lines 8-19 with the following replacement paragraph:

Still more preferred are semi-crystalline, thermoplastic, polymeric films. Semi-crystalline thermoplastics include, but are not limited to, polyesters, polyamides, thermoplastic polyimides, polyarylether ketones, aliphatic polyketones, polyphenylene sulfide, isotactic or syndiotactic polystyrene and their derivatives, polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, cellulose derivatives, polyethylene, polyolefins, fluorinated polymers and copolymers, polyvinylidene chloride, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinylacetate, and polyethers. Still more preferred are semi-crystalline thermoplastics, which can be stretched to form a biaxially oriented film from the semi-crystalline state. These include, but are not limited to, certain polyesters and polyamides, certain fluorinated polymers, syndiotactic polystyrene, polyethylenes, and polyolefins. Still more preferred are polyethylenes and polypropylenes. Predominantly isotactic polypropylene is most preferred.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 26 and ending on page 15, line 7 with the following replacement paragraph:

Polypropylene for use in the present invention may optionally include 1-40% by weight of a resin, of synthetic or natural origin, having a molecular weight between about 300 and 8000, and having a softening point between about 60° C and 180° C. Typically, such a resin is chosen from one of four main classes: petroleum resins, styrene resins, cyclopentadiene resins, and

terpene resins. Optionally, resins from any of these classes may be partially or fully hydrogenated. Petroleum resins typically have, as monomeric constituents, styrene, methylstyrene, vinyltoluene, indene, methylindene, butadiene, isoprene, piperylene, and/or pentylene. Styrene resins typically have, as monomeric constituents, styrene, methylstyrene, vinyltoluene, and/or butadiene. Cyclopentadiene resins typically have, as monomeric constituents, cyclopentadiene and optionally other monomers. Terpene resins typically have, as monomeric constituents, pinene, alpha-pinene, dipentene, limonene, myrcene, and camphene.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 31 and ending on page 27, line 13 with the following replacement paragraph:

The local stretch ratios of films, measured in this way, can vary significantly within one specimen due to necking or line-drawing in one or both of the stretch directions. For the case of simultaneous biaxial stretching, line drawing usually manifests itself as a band or bands on the film, arranged substantially perpendicular to a stretch direction for which the stretch ratio is less than the natural stretch ratio in that direction, wherein such bands are substantially less highly stretched than the remainder of the film. Such non-uniformity was quantified for Examples 1-13 by calculating the Relative Standard Deviation of the MDR, expressed as the ratio of the standard deviation of the six local MDR measurements to the mean value of the six local MDR measurements. It will be readily appreciated that, when an unstretched cast film of uniform thickness is employed as a starting material, the Relative Standard Deviation of the MDR stands also as an indirect qualitative measure of the finished film thickness uniformity, as a relatively large local stretch ratio will result in a local thin spot, all else being equal. It will also be appreciated that other direct and indirect measurement methods exist for quantifying nonuniformity of the film. The method used herein is meant to be illustrative and should not be regarded as limiting.